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AUDENSHAW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE STATE OF THE
PUBLIC HEALTH OF AUDENSHAW

1946



BY

HAZEL I. ASHFORD, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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Public Health Committee, 1946

Councillor W. KAY (Chairman)
" E. C. HEWITT, J.P.
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" A. HEWITT, J.P.
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" R. NEWTON, C.C., J.P.
" R. PARKER, F.C.A.
" A. H. ROTHWELL
" J. E. SMETHURST
" J. PICKLES
" T. GREENHALGH
" J. EDWARDS

Staff

Medical Officer of Health:

HAZEL I. ASHFORD, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector, Meat and Food Inspector:

HUGH C. SLATER, Cert. Royal San. Assoc'n of Scotland

Clerk: Mrs. J. Pritchard

Statistical.

The following are the General Statistics for the year 1946

Area of District, in acres	...	...	...	...	...	1241
Population (Census, 1931)	...	...	...	...	...	8460
Estimated Population at the middle of 1946, supplied by the Registrar General	...	...	...	...	...	12,150
Number of Inhabited Houses (Census, 1931)	...	...	...	...	...	2,207
Number of Inhabited Houses at the end of 1946, according to the Rate Books...	...	...	...	...	...	3,960
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	£77,109
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	£306

Vital Statistics

BIRTHS.

		Total	M.	F.
Live Births.....	Legitimate ...	201	107	94
	Illegitimate ...	13	8	5
		<hr style="border-top: 1px solid black;"/>	<hr style="border-top: 1px solid black;"/>	<hr style="border-top: 1px solid black;"/>
		214	115	99

		Total	M.	F.
Still births ...	Legitimate ...	9	3	6
	Illegitimate...	—	—	—
		<hr style="border-top: 1px solid black;"/>	<hr style="border-top: 1px solid black;"/>	<hr style="border-top: 1px solid black;"/>
		9	3	6

Birth rate per 1,000 estimated resident population 17.6
 Still Birth Rate per 1000 total (Live & Still) Births..... 40.0

DEATHS.

	Total	M.	F.
Deaths.....	148	78	70

Death Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population was
 12.1 (Crude Death Rate).

DEATHS FROM PUPERAL CAUSES.

	Deaths
Puerperal Sepsis	—
Other Puerperal causes	1

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE.

All Infants per 1,000 live births	46
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	49
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	Nil

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	30
," Measles (all ages).....	Nil
," Whooping Cough (all ages)Nil	
," Diarrhœa (under 2 years) 1	

TABLES.

Tables 1, 2 and 3 give a comparison of the birth and death rates with previous years, and with the corresponding rates for England and Wales.

Table 4 classifies the deaths under certain heads.

Tables 5 and 6 classify and compare the deaths in certain diseases during the last 10 years.

TABLE No. 1.
VITAL STATISTICS. Per 1,000 of Estimated Population.

Mean of 5 years	Live Birth rate	Death rate from Tuberculosis	Death rate from Respira- tory system	Death rate from Cancer	Maternal Mortality Rate		Rate of Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births
					per 1,000 total (live & still) births	per 1,000 live births	
1941-1945 ...	17.8	12.0	0.40	1.65	2.89	2.81	41
Year 1945 ...	17.7	12.7	0.34	1.73	4.87	4.76	34
Year 1946 ...	17.6	12.1	0.65	2.46	4.67	4.48	46
Increase or decrease in 1946 on 5 years' average, 1941-45	0.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.25	+ 0.81	+ 1.78	+ 1.67	+ 5
Previous Year ...	-0.1	- 0.6	+ 0.31	+ 0.78	- 0.20	- 0.28	+ 12

TABLE No. 2.

Comparison of Local Birth and Death Rates with those of
England and Wales.

Year	Popu- lation	Birth Rate		Death Rate	
		Local	England and Wales	Local	England and Wales
1936	11,060	13.40	14.80	12.40	12.10
1937	11,460	13.70	14.90	9.80	12.40
1938	11,870	14.90	15.10	10.70	11.60
1939	11,880	13.30	15.00	10.90	12.10
1940	11,840	14.70	14.60	11.00	14.30
1941	11,810	16.20	14.20	12.30	12.90
1942	11,570	10.80	15.80	12.10	11.60
1943	11,810	17.70	16.50	10.84	12.10
1944	11,500	18.00	17.60	12.26	11.60
1945	11,530	17.70	16.10	12.70	11.40
Average of 10 years		15.04	15.46	12.50	12.21
1946	12,150	17.60	19.10	12.10	11.50

TABLE No. 3. Infant Mortality.

Year	No. of Deaths	Rate of Deaths		Rate of Deaths	
		per 1,000 Births	Local	per 1,000 Births	England and Wales
1936	6	.....	40	.....	59
1937	2	.....	12	.....	58
1938	10	.....	56	.....	53
1939	6	.....	37	.....	50
1940	5	.....	28	.....	50
1941	10	.....	52	.....	58
1942	5	.....	22	.....	49
1943	6	.....	56.6	.....	49
1944	9	.....	43.5	.....	46
1945	7	.....	34	.....	46
Average of 10 years	6.6	.....	38.1	.....	51.8
1946	10	.....	46	.....	43

TABLE No. 4. Causes of Death during 1946.

	Total	Males	Females
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal fever.....	—	—	—
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	8	4	4
Other Forms of Tuberculosis.....	1	—	1
Syphilitic Diseases	1	1	—
Influenza	1	—	1
Acute polio-myelitis and polio encephalitis	—	—	—
Acute infectious encephalitis ...	—	—	—
Cancer, malignant disease	30	18	12
Diabetes	—	—	—
Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions ...	22	12	10
Heart disease	50	23	27
Other circulatory diseases	2	1	1
Bronchitis	2	1	1
Pneumonia (all forms)	3	1	2
Other respiratory diseases	2	1	1
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	1	—	1
Diarrhoea, under 2 years	1	1	—
Appendicitis	—	—	—
Other digestive diseases	1	—	1
Nephritis	2	2	—
Puerperal and post abortion sepsis	—	—	—
Other maternal causes.....	1	—	1
Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, etc. ...	6	5	1
Suicide	—	—	—
Road traffic accidents	3	2	1
Other violent causes	1	1	—
All other causes	10	5	5
	148	78	70

TABLE No. 5.

Cause of death in certain diseases during ten years.

Disease	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940	1939	1938	1937
Measles	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet fever...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Diphtheria ...	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	2	1
Whooping Cough	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	1	1
Tuberculosis...	9	4	3	3	6	10	10	9	9	5
Cancer	30	20	20	15	17	29	15	12	15	15
Influenza	1	—	3	5	—	1	3	1	—	6
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Pneumonia ...	3	6	6	7	6	6	7	4	7	11
Bronchitis ...	2	13	9	10	3	10	9	3	4	6
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	1	—	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever.	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever	0	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

TABLE No. 6

Tuberculosis Death Rate.

Year	Rate per 1000 Estimated Population
1936	0.90
1937	0.43
1938	0.58
1939	0.67
1940	0.59
1941	0.85
1942	0.52
1943	0.26
1944	0.26
1945	0.35
Average of ten years....	0.54
1946	0.74

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASE.

No epidemic of infectious disease occurred throughout the year. It is gratifying to note that no deaths occurred as the result of Diphtheria and only 3 cases of Diphtheria were notified.

IMMUNISATION.

Sessions were held monthly at the School Clinic, Denton Road.

TABLE No. 7.

IMMUNISATION in relation to Child Population.

Number of Children who had completed a full course of Immunisation at any time up to 31st December, 1946.

Age at 31/12/46, i.e.: Born in year	Under 1 1946	1 1945	2 1944	3 1943	4 1942	5—9 1937-41	10-14 1932-36	Total under 15
Number Immunised	0	91	105	101	143	320	501	1261
Estimated Mid-year popula'n 1946		986				1420		2406

Number of Children Immunised at School Clinic during 1946 and who completed Immunisation.

Under 5 years—137. 5 years and over—18. Total—155

TABLE No. 8. Notifiable Diseases During the Year 1946. (Other than Tuberculosis.)

Disease	Total Cases all ages.	Under 1-12				13-44				45-54				55 & over				Total Deaths Cases in H'p'l rem'd to deaths
		1	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-55	over Tot'l Hosp'l						
Scarlet Fever	15	1	1	2	3	4	3					1						
Measles	22	1	4	7	3	1	2					3						1
Whooping Cough	23	3	7	3	3	4	1											1
Diphtheria	3											2						1
Acute Primary and Influenza Pneumonia	7	1												2		1	3	
Erysipelas	3														1	2		
Dysentery...	4								1					1				
Malaria ...		1												1				
Total...	78	3	10	16	6	7	13	4						6	3	5	5	

TABLE No. 9.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Deaths during 1946.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0— 1	0	0	0	0	.....	0	0	0
1— 5	0	0	1	1	.....	0	0	0
5—10	0	0	0	0	.....	0	0	0
10—15	0	1	0	0	.....	0	0	0
15—20	0	0	1	0	.....	0	0	0
20—25	0	4	0	0	.....	1	1	0
25—35	1	0	0	0	.....	0	1	0
35—45	0	0	0	0	.....	1	1	0
45—55	2	0	0	0	.....	0	1	0
55—65	0	1	0	0	.....	2	0	0
65 and upwards	0	0	0	0	.....	0	0	1
 Totals	 3	 6	 2	 1	.....	4	 4	 0
	 9		 3			 8		 1

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

WATER SUPPLY.

The Water Supply is good in quality and sufficient in quantity. The whole of the District is supplied by the Ashton, Stalybridge and Dukinfield District Joint Water Board.

No raw water is supplied and there is no evidence of Plumbo Solvency.

All Dwelling Houses in the District are supplied direct from water mains.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

Work was commenced during the year on the reconstruction of the main sewerage system for the area.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

The closet accommodation at the end of the year was as follows :—

Pail Closets	...	...	...	...	...	22
Waste-water Closets	...	...	...	...	...	1331
Fresh-water Closets	...	...	...	...	...	3075

10 of the pail closets are situated at farms, etc. where there is no sewer available, or on temporary building sites.

5 waste water closets were converted to fresh water closets during the year.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

SCAVENGING.

The 12.72 miles of roads in the district are divided into four areas, and swept on the beat system. All street gullies are emptied quarterly by a Mechanical Gully Emptier hired from the Denton Urban District Council.

REFUSE COLLECTION.

There are approximately 4030 moveable covered Ashbins in the District. There are no Privy Middens or Dry Ashpits. The work of collection is carried out by a 20 h.p. all metal Bedford Refuse Collector and one 14 h.p. Karrier Refuse Collector.

DISPOSAL.

All refuse is disposed of by means of controlled tipping on low lying ground on the boundary of the district.

SALVAGE.

A sum of £666 was realised by the sale of salvaged materials. The weights of materials salvaged during the year are as follows:

	Tons		Tons
Waste Paper...	... 72½		
Iron...	... 1	Bottles...	... 5¼
Rags...	... 1½	Kitchen Waste ...	83
Sacking...	... 4		

TENTS, VANS, SHEDS, CAMPING SITES, etc.

The number of Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc. in occupation at the end of the year was 5. These were periodically inspected and found in good condition.

No licences in respect of Camping Sites have been issued by the Local Authority.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

23 observations were made during the year. Special firebars were installed in one factory in an endeavour to eradicate a smoke nuisance. Difficulties were experienced owing to the low grade type of fuel being used.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

7 houses were found to be bug infested and were sprayed with Insecticide, and/or fumigated with Sulphur Dioxide. Tenants are advised on precautions to be taken to prevent reinfestation, and this has produced good results.

SCHOOLS.

There are 4 Elementary Day Schools and 1 Grammar School in the district.

The sanitary condition of the schools is fair, and all have a good supply of water.

HOUSING.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b)	33
(1) By the Local Authority	nil
(2) By other Local Authorities	nil
(3) By other bodies and persons	33
(b) With State Assistance under the Housing Acts.	
(1) By the Local Authority, included under (a) (1) above	nil
(2) By other bodies of persons (included under (a) (3) above).....	nil

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year :

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under the Public Health or Housing Acts)	497
(b) Number of inspections made for purpose	795
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	74
(b) Number of inspections made for purpose	92
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	67
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the previous sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	196

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal notice :

Number of Defective Dwelling Houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers... ...168

3.	Action under Statutory Powers during the year :	
	(a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 & 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
1.	Number of Dwelling Houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs...	9
2.	Number of Dwelling Houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :	
	(a) By Owners...	6
	(b) By Local Authority...	3
	(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :	
1.	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	5
2.	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
	(a) By Owners ...	5
	(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners ...	nil
	(c) Proceedings under Section 11 & 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
1.	Number of Dwelling Houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ...	nil
2.	Number of Dwelling Houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders...	nil
	(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
1.	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ...	nil
2.	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ...	nil

HOUSING ACT, 1936—PART IV. OVERCROWDING.

A new survey would have to be carried out to obtain the exact position regarding overcrowding.

The number of overcrowded houses obtained from application forms received for Council houses is approximately 200.

2 cases of overcrowding were relieved during the year.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

MILK SUPPLY.

The number of Dairy farms is six, two of which produce accredited milk. The number of milk purveyors (excluding cowkeepers) is 50, including 45 milk shops.

31 visits were paid to Farms, and all milk shops were periodically inspected.

Two supplementary licences were issued in respect of the distribution of " Pasteurised Milk."

One dealer's licence for the bottling of "Tuberculin" tested milk, and one licence in respect of a Pasteurising plant were issued in the closing month of the year.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

All slaughtering for the district is carried out at Stockport No. 2 Regional Abattoir.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Number killed & inspected.....	1005	623	3852	2
All diseases except				
Tuberculosis:				
Carcases wholly condemned ...	4	2	2	—
Carcases partially condemned	5	2	3	—
Tuberculosis only:				
Carcases wholly condemned ...	18	5	—	—
Carcases partially condemned	14	—	—	—
All diseases:				
Organs condemned.....	1109	6	97	—

The total amount of Meat condemned as unfit for human consumption was $13\frac{1}{4}$ tons.

Regular inspections were made at all food premises in the district. The amount of Food condemned as unsound or unwholesome was 6 tons.

BAKEHOUSES.

There are 12 Bakehouses in the district, all of which were regularly inspected and 5 verbal intimations given regarding structural defects and cleansing were complied with.

FACTORIES.

Routine inspections were carried out under the appropriate sections of the Factories Act, 1937, and action was taken where necessary to ensure reasonable standards.

SAMPLING OF FOOD AND DRUGS.

This work is administered by the County Council.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

No. of Inspect's	No. of Defects	No. of Notices Served	Notices compl'd with	Notices out- standing
Informal	Stat.			
Visits to Dwelling Houses.....				
Structural Defects...	288	183	169	14 157 26
Water Supply.....	31			
Drainage.....	107	18	18	18
Verminous Premises	25	7	7	7
Defective Paving of yards, etc.	18	15	15	15
Refuse Collection ...	147			
Refuse Disposal.....	88			
Ashbins	447	346	346	321 25
Rats and Mice	138	27	19	19
Schools	18			
Shops	164	4	4	4
Factories.....	130	6	6	6
Outworkers.....	18			
Stables & Piggeries	32	2	2	1 1
Accumulations of Refuse	10	10	10	8 2
Visits re Cases of Infect's Disease				
Cowsheds	21	1	1	1
Dairies & Milkshops	31	3	3	3
Visits to Slaughter-houses.....	127			
Visits to Food Premises.....	104			
Animals Improperly kept.....	53	6	6	4 2
Closet & Gully Stoppages clear'd	5	1	1	1
Miscellaneous visits	221			
	84	16	11	10 1
	2939	866	618	14 575 57

